

# Eight classes of semantic properties of entities

(from §3.2, Frawley, *Linguistic Semantics*)

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1. Specificity
  - 1.1. Definiteness
  - 1.2. Factivity, Negation, and Restrictive Modification
2. Boundedness (often found in classifiers)
  - 2.1. Seven features of boundedness
    - 2.1.1. Bounded features are delimited only within their normal construal
    - 2.1.2. Boundedness may be virtual as well as real
    - 2.1.3. Boundedness is a property of entities, not of their linguistic expression
    - 2.1.4. Boundedness is fuzzy
    - 2.1.5. Bounded and unbounded entities diverge on their internal homogeneity
    - 2.1.6. Bounded and unbounded entities diverge on their expansibility
    - 2.1.7. Bounded and unbounded entities diverge on their replicability
  - 2.2. Countability
    - 2.2.1. Mass/Count
    - 2.2.2. Singular/Plural
3. Animacy
  - 3.1. vs. inanimate
    - 3.1.1. human vs non-human
    - 3.1.2. animals
  - 3.2. Animacy hierarchy (often found in classifiers)
4. Sex and Gender
  - 4.1. Sex vs gender
  - 4.2. Male, Female, Neuter
  - 4.3. Gender & categorization (similar to classifiers)
5. Kinship
  - 5.1. Consanguinity, Lineality, Generation
  - 5.2. Three systems
    - 5.2.1. English
    - 5.2.2. Seneca
    - 5.2.3. Mari'ngar
  - 5.3. Universals
6. Social Status
  - 6.1. Four aspects of social status
  - 6.2. Contextually stable relation (often found in classifiers)
    - 6.2.1. Narrow structure
    - 6.2.2. Gradient
    - 6.2.3. Variety
  - 6.3. Four types of Honorific
    - 6.3.1. Speaker/Hearer system
    - 6.3.2. Speaker/Referent system
    - 6.3.3. Speaker/Bystander system
    - 6.3.4. Speaker/Situation system

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### 7. Physical Properties

#### 7.1. Extendedness (often found in classifiers)

7.1.1. Dimensionality/Shape

7.1.2. Direction

#### 7.2. Interioricity

7.2.1. Solid entities

7.2.2. Outlined entities

7.2.2.1. rings

7.2.2.2. holes

#### 7.3. Size

#### 7.4. Consistency (often found in classifiers)

7.4.1. flexible

7.4.2. rigid

#### 7.5. Other types (often found in classifiers)

7.5.1. arrangements

7.5.2. quanta/aggregates

7.5.3. natural forces

7.5.4. flora

7.5.5. material

7.5.6. readable volumes

7.5.7. time

7.5.8. units of value

7.5.9. spatial measurements

### 8. Function (to which something is put; often serve as metaphoric extensions)

#### 8.1. Many types (culturally specific), examples

8.1.1. edibility

8.1.2. cutting/piercing and instruments

8.1.3. vehicular transport

8.1.4. housing

8.1.5. speaking

8.1.6. Tzeltal, a limiting case, has numerical classifiers for the functions of

8.1.6.1. planning

8.1.6.2. igniting combustible materials

8.1.6.3. jumping

8.1.6.4. mixing

8.1.6.5. cleansing interiors

8.1.6.6. squatting

8.1.6.7. grinding

8.1.6.8. pulling

8.1.6.9. rubbing

8.1.6.10. peeling

8.1.6.11. pressing

8.1.6.12. raising

8.1.6.13. grabbing

8.1.6.14. harvesting

8.1.6.15. producing onomatopoeic sounds